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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : George C. ALLEN Jr. et al.

Group Art Unit : 2664

Appl. No. : 10/024,182

Examiner : Wellington CHIN

Filed : December 21, 2001

Confirmation No. : 4402

For : ATM-BASED DISTRIBUTED VIRTUAL TANDEM SWITCHING  
SYSTEM

**THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**RECEIVED**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APR 29 2004

Technology Center 2600

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements that were filed on April 3, 2002, May 13, 2002, and February 12, 2004, applicants submit a copy of an Office Action from the European Patent Office that was mailed on March 3, 2004, with regard to related European Patent Application No. EP 01 937 166.5, in which the European Examiner cited the following document:

U.S. Patent No. 6,049,531 to ROY, which issued on April 11, 2000.

The category of relevance, pertinent portions, and claims to which the document is relevant, as ascertained by the European Examiner applying European rules to the European claims is set forth in the European Office Action.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. A copy of the above-noted document is attached and has been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on


the attached Form and to return a copy of the Form to the applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of the document.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the instant application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p), to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
George C. ALLEN Jr. et al.

*Reg. No. 40,063*



Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

April 26, 2004  
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